

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

Published every evening, Sunday excepted, by the Tonopah Bonanza Printing Co., Incorporated

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Terms of Subscription by Mail for Daily Bonanza:
 One Year \$12.00
 Six Months \$6.00
 Three Months \$3.00
 Delivered by Carrier: \$1.25 per Month

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Entered at the postoffice at Tonopah as second class matter.
 Official Paper for County of Nye and Town of Tonopah

UNPREPARED TEACHERS

The National Educational association, in a report made in 1918, shows rather clearly a few of the reasons why the tests applied to our draft army, just being taken into the service at that time, found the literacy standard so low. That report shows that out of 600,000 public school teachers in the United States, 100,000 are 17, 18 and 19 years old; 150,000 are not more than 21 years old; 300,000 are not more than 25 years old. The length of service of 150,000 of these teachers is only two years or less, and 300,000 of them do not teach more than four or five years.

The statistics pertaining to education of those teachers are even more startling, for it has been estimated that 30,000 have had no education beyond the eighth grade of the elementary school, 300,000 have had no more than four years' education beyond the eighth grade. Only 300,000 have had any special professional training for their chosen work of teaching. Since 1918 the trend has been steadily worse for many of the most alert and brightest teachers are being drawn out of that work by the better pay offered in the other professions and in business of all sorts. The cry is constantly being raised throughout the length and breadth of the country for teachers. In many states schools are forced to close on account of the impossibility of securing anyone to teach the school in spite of the fact that the qualifications have been greatly reduced on the plea that it is better to have a teacher of some sort rather than no teacher at all.

All this means that 50 per cent of the next generation of American voters are today being taught and directed by immature and untrained teachers. The men and women of tomorrow face the danger of having the standard of literacy lowered rather than raised as the years go by. The country at large is slowly awakening to the seriousness of the situation, but it is not yet sufficiently aroused. Salary increases for teachers in many places have been granted too slowly and too grudgingly and in some cases the increases are too small to accomplish their purpose. Reports from the east are that the boards of education and the parents are paying for teachers. There should be no hesitation, no compromise, no putting off until times are better in providing for this very essential part of the life of the nation. To insure that tomorrow will be better than today and that the world shall progress, provision must be made for the thorough and satisfactory education of all Americans, both children and adults, and the wiping out as far as possible of all illiteracy.

THE LEAGUE RUNS AMUCK

Campaign issues are not static. Every party platform cannot give them a rigidity that is bound to endure from convention time to election day. It is apparent at this moment that the truth of the above is causing consternation among the democrats, but is not at all disturbing to the republicans. Whether Wilson considers the fate of the league covenant the dominant question of the hour, or continues to maintain that it is only secondary, cannot alter the fact that its future is being determined by Europe and not by America.

On August 3, at San Sebastian, Spain, the militarization of the league of nations was decreed by the council of the league. An international general staff, to direct all military operations undertaken in the name of the league, was established. Had not the United States remained loyal to the basic principles of our institutions, the army and navy of the United States would now be under command of this general staff.

The obsolete little creature that was to lead the nations, according to him to whom it owed its being, into the flower-bedecked paths of peace has grown suddenly into a militant Frankenstein, shocking its creator as it proceeds to turn its prancing hooves into spears and its ploughshares into swords.

The adoption of the treaty without change by the dotting of an "i" or the crossing of a "t" is not a matter of importance now, even at the White House. The league of nations is armed and out on the warpath, but, thank God, this nation retains its right and its power to make war or peace at its own volition. Cox need worry no longer about what White has to say concerning the league as an issue.

BUYING EM OFF

From the San Francisco Bulletin

In solving our own troubles Mexico may have stumbled upon a solution of the troubles of Europe. The problem of Villa that baffled both the American and Mexican governments was settled on the simple principle of a cash payment for the return of stolen territory—and no questions asked. Now Cantu is being offered a colonelcy in return for calling off his come-opera rebellion. Every bandit has his price, and so has every rascally rebel. Even if Cantu should bargain for a generalship his submission would be cheap at the price. Mexican generals are as plentiful as tabby cats, and as tame if they are stroked the right way. Why not try the plan on Russia? Lenin and Trotsky might be bought for less money than it would cost to fight them, and even if they should want to be made field marshals, what of it—there would not be much work for field marshals in Europe if the bolsheviks went out of business.

Gambling ruined horseracing and boxing in this country. It must be checked in baseball or it will ruin the game. Honest men and women will not pay their money and waste their time to see a crooked performance manipulated by gamblers.

Democrats contend that in the southern states the republicans have a chance only in Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland, Virginia and Oklahoma. Otherwise they want the claim of republican opportunity in the south. Six states is not so bad.

WARM CONTEST IN ARKANSAS

(City Associated Press)
 LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Aug. 9.—The senatorial primary to be held in Arkansas tomorrow promises to be one of the most interesting and hard-fought elections in the history of the state.

There is a bitter contest for the United States senatorship, there are nine candidates for governor, there are contests for representative in four of the state congressional districts, nearly all of the state offices are being fought for and in every county there are further contests for local offices. Only democrats will be voted for in this primary and in this case the democratic nomination is virtually equivalent to election.

The struggle for the nomination for United States senator between Charles B. Kirby and Congressman T. H. Caraway has developed into one of the most sensational affairs in the history of Arkansas politics. Each of the candidates has been conspicuous in his criticism of the other's official record.

Senator Kirby is fighting out the term for which the late Senator James P. Clark originally was nominated. Senator Clark defeated Mr. Kirby in the state primary six years ago but died before a re-election effort was held.

CLEVER YOUNG WOMAN SMUGGLER DETECTED

(Correspondence of Associated Press)
 GENEVA, Aug. 9. Madame Bella Erdmann, young widow of an Austrian officer, has been sentenced to pay a fine of 50,000 marks and serve one month in jail for smuggling. It is said she defrauded the Berlin and Vienna authorities out of more than \$100,000 by means of a small army of employees at Lake Constance who used six automobiles, three motor boats and other paraphernalia in their illicit business.

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